

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: IA-ECOSOC, PA

SUBJ: IA-ECOSOC INVITATION TO SAPENA PASTOR

REF: EMBTEL 2983

1. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED BY USOAS FROM HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS IN THE OAS SECRETARIAT, SAPENA PASTOR WAS INVITED TO SHARE THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE U.S. WITH JESUS RODRIGUEZ Y RODRIGUEZ, PRESIDENT OF CEPICIES (CIAP). SAPENA PASTOR HAD EXPRESSED AN INTEREST THROUGH THE PARAGUAYAN EMBASSY IN CHAIRING THIS REVIEW AS HE HAD DONE IN THE PAST. HOWEVER, AT THAT TIME HE HAD NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED BY HIS GOVERNMENT AS THE REPRESENTATIVE ON CEPICIES. HAD HE BEEN INVITED TO PRESIDE REPEAT PRESIDE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES HE WOULD HAVE EXPECTED HIS EXPENSES TO BE PAID BY THE OAS. FOR THIS REASON THE OAS SECRETARIAT DID NOT ACT ON SAPENA PASTOR'S BID. SAPENA PASTOR'S DESIGNATION AS PARAGUAYAN REPRESENTATIVE OF CEPICIES WAS RECEIVED AFTER THE DECISION HAD

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BEEN MADE BY RODRIGUEZ TO CHAIR THE U.S. COUNTRY REVIEW.

AFTER HIS DESIGNATION TO CEPICIES T OAS INVITED SAPENA PASTOR TO COLLABORATE WITH RODRIGUEZ IN CHAIRING THE U.S. REVIEW IF HE SO DESIRED. HIS PARTICIPATION AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF PARAGUAY WOULD MAKE THE GOP RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS EXPENSES.

2. COMMENT: READING BETWEEN THE LINES, SAPENA PASTOR'S CANDIDACY FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY GENERAL PRESENTED A TICKLISH PROBLEM FOR THE SECRETARIAT IN INVITING HIM TO CHAIR THE REVIEW WHEN HE HAD NO OFFICIAL STANDING AS A MEMBER OF CEPICIES.

3. IN VIEW OF THE LEVEL AND NUMBER OF U.S. AND OTHER OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN THE REVIEW, IT IS TOO LATE TO SEEK A POSTPONEMENT OF THE MEETING. IN ANY CASE, IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, NO POSTPONEMENT COULD BE JUSTIFIED. INGERSOLL

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